

### **REMARKS**

Claims 1, 7 and 11 have been amended. Claims 1-20 remain in the application.

Claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,681,998 to Nakazaki et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,473,657 to McKenna. Nakazaki et al. discloses a vehicle load measuring device which, as shown in the FIG. 6, includes a leaf spring 43, two axle cases 42 supported by the leaf spring 43. The leaf spring 43 is fixed to a trunnion shaft 44. The trunnion shaft 44 is fitted into a hole formed at the center portion of a trunnion bracket 45 which is secured to a rear body frame 41. As shown in the figures, the leaf spring of Nakazaki et al. includes multiple narrow plates attached together, and, as best seen in FIG. 2, the leaf spring is secured to the middle of an elongated axle.

In contrast, the present application, as amended, claims a roller truck having a single spring plate, which has a length not greater than three times a smallest width of the plate, and two side edges of the spring plate being secured to the axles near the ends of the axles. The amendments are supported by Figures 1, 2 and 3. Neither Nakazaki et al. nor the combination of Nakazaki et al. and McKenna teaches or suggests a roller truck having a single spring plate, which has a length not greater than three times a smallest width of the plate, and two side edges of the spring plate being secured to the axles near the ends of the axles, as claimed in the amended claim 1. Therefore, independent claim 1 now should be patentable over the prior art patents. Claims 2-20 depend from claim 1 and include all the limitations of claim 1, thus should be all patentable over the prior art patents.

Claims 1, 7, and 11 have also been amended as the examiner required. Claims 1, 7 and 11 were objected to because the recitation that an element is "adapted to" perform a function is not a positive limitation but only requires the ability to so perform. The Applicants have amended claims 1, 7, and 11 to obviate the objections.

Claims 11 was also objected to because the Examiner believed that the recitation "gantry" lacks sufficient antecedent basis. The Applicants respectfully submit that the antecedent basis for the recitation "gantry" is provided in the preamble of claim 11.

No new matter is presented by the amendments.

On the basis of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicants respectfully submit that all the pending claims 1-20 are now in condition of allowance. If there are any questions regarding these amendments and remarks, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

No additional costs are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this paper. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-1133.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jeffrey J. Miller  
Registration Number 39,773  
McDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY  
28 State Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02109  
Tel.: (617) 535-4421  
Fax: (617) 535-3800